

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. By this amendment, claims 36-44 have been cancelled without prejudice. Withdrawn claims 8-19, 21-23, 33 and 34 have been cancelled without prejudice, and Applicants reserve the right to file divisional applications thereto. New claims 48-81 have been added. Claims 6, 7, 25-28 and 35 have been amended to correct the dependency of the currently pending claims, and claims 45-47 have been amended to independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim. These amendments do not introduce new matter.

Objection to Dependent Claims Based Upon Rejected Claim Base

In the Office Action mailed November 30, 2007, Claims 45-47 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected claim base. Claims 45-47 have been amended to independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim as suggested by the Examiner in order to address these objections. Withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

Claims 6, 7, 25-31 and 35-44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for allegedly failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The Examiner alleged that the specification does not reasonably provide enablement for a substantially pure immunoglobulin molecule which binds specifically to A34 antigen, wherein the immunoglobulin molecule comprises at least one CDR or any combinations of CDRs thereof of the SEQ ID NOs: listed in Claims 39, 40 and 41. (Official Action at 3). Therefore, the Examiner alleged that the specification does not allow one of ordinary skill in the art to use the invention commensurate in scope with the pending claims and that undue experimentation would be required in

order to determine what combinations of the CDRs would result in a functional antibody.

Applicants maintain that the present specification provides written description commensurate with the scope of the claims and that undue experimentation would not be required in order to determine what combinations of the CDRs would result in a functional antibody. In the interest of advancing prosecution, new independent claim 48 has been added to recite an immunoglobulin molecule which binds specifically to A34 antigen, where the immunoglobulin molecule includes at least one heavy chain variable region having a CDR3 region consisting of the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 37 or SEQ ID NO: 49. Support for the immunoglobulin molecule including at least one heavy chain variable region having a CDR3 region consisting of the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 37 or SEQ ID NO: 49 may be found in the instant specification, *inter alia*, at Figure 24. New claim 49 has been added to recite an immunoglobulin molecule of claim 48 including at least one light chain variable region having a CDR3 region consisting of the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 40 or SEQ ID NO: 46. Support for the immunoglobulin molecule of claim 48 including at least one light chain variable region having a CDR3 region consisting of the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 40 or SEQ ID NO: 46 may be found in amended claims 36 and 38, as shown in the instant specification, *inter alia*, at Figure 24.

New claim 50 has been added to recite the immunoglobulin molecule of claim 48 in which the heavy chain variable region includes a CDR1 region consisting of a sequence selected from SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41 and SEQ ID NO: 47, and a CDR2 region consisting of the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 36 or SEQ ID NO: 48. Support for the heavy chain variable region having a CDR1 region consisting of a sequence selected from SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 41 and SEQ ID NO: 47, and a CDR2 region consisting of the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 36 or SEQ ID NO: 48 may be

found in the instant specification, *inter alia*, at Figure 24. New claim 51 has been added to recite the immunoglobulin molecule of claims 48 or 49 in which the light chain variable region includes a CDR1 region consisting of a sequence selected from SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 38 and SEQ ID NO: 44, and a CDR2 region consisting of the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 33 or SEQ ID NO: 45. Support for the light chain variable region having a CDR1 region consisting of a sequence selected from SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 38 and SEQ ID NO: 44, and a CDR2 region consisting of the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 33 or SEQ ID NO: 45 may be found in the instant specification, *inter alia*, at Figure 24. Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 48-51 overcome the Examiner's allegations that rejected claims 6, 7, 25-31 and 35-44 are drawn to immunoglobulin molecules having any combination of CDRs without regard for characteristic immunoglobulin structure.

New claims 52-61, 62-71 and 72-81 which correspond to claims 6, 7, 25-31 and 35 in the instant Amendment have been added and depend from amended independent claims 45, 46 and 47 respectively. Claims 36-44 have been cancelled without prejudice. In view of the foregoing comments and amendments, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, favorable consideration and allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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